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18 October 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Record

SUBJECT : Presidential Briefing

1. On 14 October I went to the White House Situation Room for the purpose of supporting a briefing to President Reagan on the Soviet Space Program. The President arrived at 1:30 P.M. In attendance at the meeting were President Reagan, White House Counselor Edwin Meese, White House Chief of Staff James Baker, Deputy to National Security Advisor Robert C. McFarlane, and Col. Gilbert Rye of the NSC Staff. Col. Rye had primary responsibility for the briefing. My attendance at the meeting came at the request of Judge Clark, who told Dixon Davis that someone from CIA should be in attendance. []

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2. The President was shown an 18 minute video tape on the Soviet Space Program produced by the DDI Television Center and OSWR in early 1982. Prior to the showing I gave Col. Rye information that updated the contents of the video tape. Following the showing of the video tape and Col. Rye's remarks, I showed the President a series of recent []

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3. I believe the President was very impressed by the contents of the video tape. I believe he grasped the main point - that there is a massive, unprecedented Soviet build-up in process, that will result in the Soviets taking a very challenging position (politically and militarily) in space. The President concluded the session by saying, "I wish Patton could have done what he wanted to do." The meeting was concluded at 2:00 P.M. []

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